Use of Hindi in Formal Meetings with Diplomats

529. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether many countries of the world use their own language on formal meeting with delegations of the other countries with the help of interpreters;

(b) if so, whether our diplomats/delegations also use Hindi on such occasions; and

(c) if not, whether the Government would issue instructions to use Hindi on such formal meetings with foreign delegates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) In a number of countries, English is the preferred language of communication in formal meetings with delegations of other countries. Some countries use their own language in such meetings and interpretation is normally in one of the six languages used in the United Nations.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. Our diplomats and delegations also use Hindi at formal meetings as far as possible. Necessary instructions regarding promotion and propagation of Hindi abroad are being issued from time to time.

Foreign visits by Ministers after Budget Session

†530. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:
PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministers in Government of India had undertaken foreign visits immediately after conclusion of Budget session on Parliament;

(b) if so, the number and names of such Ministers alongwith the countries to which they had visited;

(c) what was the specific reasons for these foreign visits made by Ministers at a time when the country is passing through a difficult

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

period and what is the amount spent by Government on their foreign visits and the 'Head' under which this amount was sanctioned; and

(d) in what way the people of the country have been benefited from the foreign visits made by the Ministers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

China's Technical Expertise to Pakistan

531. SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU:
SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether latest U.S. intelligence reports disclose that China had stepped up the shipments of special steels, guidance systems and technical expertise to Pakistan;

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government; and

(c) what steps Government would take to persuade China to stop missile proliferation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) Government has seen the US media reports, which state that the US Intellegence agencies have reported in classified briefings to the US Congress and the US Government that China has stepped up the shipment of special steels, guidance systems and technical expertise to Pakistan. A senior US official had started on the 8th July, at the conclusion of the US-China non-proliferation talks in Beijing, that the US raised its concerns over the reports that China's entries had provided assistance to missile programmes in Pakistan and other countries.

(b) Government has taken note of the information contained in the media reports. Government continues to view with serious